

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Formulation of the Prerevision Review Process for the Cibola National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Revision

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

SUMMARY: The Cibola National Forest requests comments on draft Prerevision review topics that have been developed through the monitoring of the current Forest Plan and interdisciplinary team review. This is an invitation to the public and representatives of government entities to express their ideas and suggestions on what needs to be changed in the current Forest Plan. Upon completion of the prerevision review, the Regional Forester shall initiate the forest plan revision process by publishing a Notice of intent to revise the forest plan and to prepare the draft environmental impact statement.

DATES: This notice is effective March 6, 1996. Comments must be submitted in writing on or before April 15, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct comments to: Jeanine A. Derby, Forest Supervisor, Cibola National Forest, 2113 Osuna Road NE, Suite A, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87110.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barney Lyons, Forest Planner, Cibola National Forest at 505-761-4650.

Background

The Land and Resource Management Plan defines the long-term direction for managing the Cibola National Forest and the Kiowa, Rita Blanca, Black Kettle, and McClellan Creek National Grasslands. The Forest Plan will take an ecological approach to achieve multiple-use management of the National Forest and National Grasslands. It means that we must blend the needs of people and environmental values in such a way that the National Forest and Grasslands represent diverse, healthy, productive,

and sustainable ecosystems. The present Cibola National Forest Plan was approved in 1985 and has been amended six times. Revision of a forest plan should occur about every 10 years, but no later than 15 years from the date of approval of the original plan or the latest plan revision.

A prerevision review of the forest plan has been conducted to identified changed conditions and/or new information which appears to indicate a need to change direction in the current plan. The Cibola National Forest developed criteria to separate between Revision Topics, Implementation Topics, Legislative Topics, Topics for other Government Entities, and Research Topics. Other information required by the National Forest Management Act will also be evaluated with the topics that indicate a need for change, such as roadless areas and wild and scenic rivers. This review was a combination of interdisciplinary team efforts and Forest plan monitoring. We are seeking comments on these topics as well as any other topics that might surface.

The revision topics that surfaced during the prerevision review are: balancing land capability with resource demand; watershed condition assessment and water uses, rights, quality and availability assessment; biological diversity; Native American collaboration; Land Grant Community collaboration; land uses; oil and gas leasing; population growth and social demographics; rural community economics; Scenery Management System; urban interface; wilderness management; recreation management; fire management; response to legal mandates; access management; and Range Management.

Implementation Topics were topics that needed additional emphasis but the present plan provide adequate direction for implementation. These topics are: infrastructure; balanced heritage resource management; land line location; limiting factors for wildlife; monitoring; resource inventories; small products as a vegetation management tool; planning coordination with local governments; Recreation Opportunity Spectrum, roadless areas and other special areas; public information and education; Research Natural Areas; budget constraints and workforce reductions; and law enforcement.

Several topics will be referred to other agencies for their consideration and input. These are:

Clean Air Act implementation; State wildlife departments regulations and hunting seasons; State forestry's responsibility for forestry practices on state and private lands; State's water quality management under the Clean Water Act; and the Department of Energy/Department of Defense responsibilities on land withdrawals.

Some of the research topics include:

Social impact on ecosystems; bats and their habitat; recreation uses and acceptable limits; grassland ecosystems and disturbances; pinyon-juniper treatment thresholds; medicinal plants and other forest products; bio-solid effects and applications; stream channel/wet meadow restoration, and health effects of smoke from prescribed burning.

No legislative topics have surfaced to date.

A copy of the draft Prerevision Review Topics is available at the Cibola National Forest Supervisor's Office, 2113 Osuna Road NE, Suite A, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110, 505-761-4650.

Dated: February 26, 1996.

Kenneth D. Knarr,

Acting Forest Supervisor.

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Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC)

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on March 27 and March 28, 1996 at the Best Western Ponderosa Inn Conference Room, 2220 Pine Street, Redding, California. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on March 27 and adjourn at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will reconvene at 8:00 a.m. on March 28 and continue until 4:00 p.m. Agenda items to be covered include: (1) Province-wide forest health work group discussion/presentation; (2) salvage timber sale monitoring; (3) Regional Ecosystem Office monitoring proposal; (4) Guidance for salvage sale activity in sensitive areas; (5) standing committee reports; and (6) public comment